(b) if so, how much are the losses at present; and

(c) to what extent the losses have increased and to what extent they are likely to be covered up with the recent hike in coal prices?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the year 1987-88 Coal India Limited suffered a loss of Rs. 224.64 crores as against a loss of Rs. 331.75 crores during 1986-87. For the year 1988-89 the price increase effective from 1.1.1989 is likely to yield around Rs. 173 crores to the Coal India Limited.

Ensuring implementation of fixed prices of certain formulations of drugs

*251. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2035 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have ensured that the prices of formulations based on Dextropropoxyphene have been implemented by the drug companies;

(b) if so, how; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what steps Government now propose to take to ensure the implementation of the fixed prices?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The Company concerned made a representation against the prices fixed by the Government and the same was disposed of by revising the prices of formulations as per Category-II with 100% MAPE. As envisaged under Para 24 of DPCO, 1987 it was incumbent upon the Company to have implemented the prices already fixed pending disposal of their representation. For such cases, the State Drugs Controllers have been asked to take necessary action as envisaged in the DPCO. Recently, the attention of the Chief Ministers of all States has also been drawn through a circular letter emphasizing upon them the need to enforce the prices fixed by the Government of India.

Redressal of grievances of striking I.O.C. workers

*252. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Questions 568 and 686 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the LPG supply in Northern India has been deteriorating due to dharnas, demonstrations and work to rule by Indian Oil Corporation workers;

(b) if so, what are the demands of the workers; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) A section of the IOC workmen had resorted to 'work to rule' in the first week of February, 1989 in pursuance of their demands for revision of pay scales and better service conditions. This led to a temporary disruption of LPG supplies to the consumers in certain pockets.

(c) The matter has since been settled between the management and the workmen, and the situation is normal.